

Claims 5 and 12 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Anand and Peters as applied to claims 1 and 8, and further in view of Melchione et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,930,764, 7/27/99).

Independent claim 1 provides a system for generating an on-line report containing user billing and inventory information. A host site is connected to at least one user computer terminal via an on-line interconnection. The host site includes a database for storing the user billing and inventory information and a processor terminal connected to the on-line interconnection. The processor terminal receives user report requests and sends reports created in response to the received requests and additional on-line user input. The processor terminal includes a view manager and data manager. The view manager is arranged to generate a set of function commands which can be selectively launched by user input to graphically display a list of available views, each of which contains a report relating to particular user information stored in a database, create a new view and report, and edit a view and report. The data manager is arranged to relate data maintained independently from the host site and input by a user with the user's billing and inventory data for display as part of a requested report.

Independent claim 8 provides a method for generating an on-line report containing user billing and inventory information in response to an inquiry from a user computer terminal via an on-line connection. The method includes generating a graphical user interface for on-line access by the user. The graphical user interface provides a set of function commands which can be selectively launched to graphically display a list of available views. Various views relate to particular user information stored in a host site database, create a new view and report, edit a view and report, allow input of user defined data and data maintained independently from the host site, and relate the independently maintained data with the user's billing and inventory data for display in a report. A report is created based on user responses to the set of commands. The created report is sent to the user terminal via the on-line connection.

Thus, applicants' invention provides for generating a report relating data maintained independently from the host site with user billing and inventory data held at the host.

As to claim 1, with respect to the limitation of Applicants' invention that the data manager is arranged to *relate data maintained independently from the host site and input by a user with the user's billing and inventory data for display as part of a requested report*, the Examiner directs attention to Peters, col. 6, lines 13-32. At this location, Peters appears to describe a database for office equipment, a database for converters, and a database for dwellings serviced for subscribers. The Examiner asserts that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have recognized that the said data is maintained independently from the host database. This is simply not the case.

At Fig. 11 and the accompanying text at col. 5, line 50 to col. 6, line 14, Peters further expands on the databases referred to above and at col. 5, lines 13-32. Fig. 11 is a block diagram of the categories of data contained *in the central storage device* (col. 5, line 50). Thus, the equipment, converter, and dwellings serviced for subscribers databases ARE NOT maintained independently from the host database as in Applicants claimed invention. Therefore, the Examiner has failed to find all elements of Applicants' independent claim 1, either taught or suggested, in either Anand or Peters.

Claim 8 is believed to be allowable, at least for the same reasons discussed above with reference to claim 1. Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1 and claims 9-12 depend from claim 8. Thus, claims 2-7 and 9-12 are believed to be patentable at least for the reasons stated above.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

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Application No.: 09/001,643
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If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Irvin E. Branch', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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